Arizona Department of Health Services
Division of Behavioral Health Services
PROVIDER MANUAL

Section 3.16   Medication Formulary

3.16.1   Introduction

To ensure the availability of safe, cost-effective and efficacious medications, ADHS/DBHS maintains a list of medications that RBHAs, at a minimum, must have on their formularies. ADHS/DBHS may add or delete medications from the minimum list based on factors such as obsolescence, toxicity, and substitution of superior products or newer treatment options. Eligible persons must have access to all covered laboratory, radiology, cardiology and other medical testing services.

3.16.2   References

The following citations can serve as additional resources for this content area:
R9-22-209
R9-31-209
AHCCCS/ADHS Contract
ADHS/T/RBHA Contract
Securing Services and Prior Authorization Section
Psychotropic Medication: Prescribing and Monitoring Section
ADHS/DBHS Behavioral Health Covered Services Guide
ADHS/DBHS Medication List
T/RBHA Medication Formulary

3.16.3   Scope

To whom does this apply?
Medications are available to:
All Title XIX and Title XXI eligible persons;
All persons determined to be Seriously Mentally Ill; and
All other persons, based on available funding; or as determined by the T/RBHA to have a medication benefit.

3.16.4   Did you know…?

That, at a minimum, the T/RBHA's formulary must include all medications on the ADHS/DBHS medication list, however, T/RBHAs may choose to maintain a more comprehensive formulary of covered medications.

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That the updated ADHS/DBHS medication list is posted on the ADHS/DBHS website at
http://www.hs.state.az.us/bhs/md/omd.htm#formulary. Updated information concerning covered
medical testing services is also posted on the ADHS/DBHS website as part of the ADHS/DBHS
Covered Services Guide (http://www.hs.state.az.us/bhs/covserv.htm).

3.16.5   Definitions
ADHS/DBHS Medication List

Formulary

Behavioral Health Medical Practitioner

3.16.6   Objectives
To provide persons access to safe, cost-effective and efficacious medications.

3.16.7   Procedures

3.16.7-A.   How is the formulary used to access medications?
Behavioral health providers contracted with a Tribal RBHA must reference the AHCCCS
Medication Formulary to determine what medications are available.

Formulary Medications
[T/RBHA insert specific information here]

Non-Formulary Medications
[T/RBHA insert specific information here]

3.16.7-B.   Prior authorization
A RBHA may require certain medications to be prior authorized. See Section 3.14, Securing
Services and Prior Authorization for details.
[RBHA insert specific information here]

3.16.7-C.   How can I have input?
Behavioral health providers can offer suggestions for adding or deleting medications to
ADHS/DBHS or their contracted T/RBHA.

Changes to the ADHS/DBHS Medication List
This section only applies to behavioral health providers contracted with RBHAs, not Tribal
RBHAs. To propose additions to or deletions from the ADHS/DBHS medication list, a
behavioral health medical practitioner may submit a request to the ADHS/DBHS Medical
Director (jdennis@hs.state.az.us).

Additions:
Requests for additions must include the following information:
▪   Medication requested (trade name and generic name, if applicable);
▪   Dosage forms, strengths and cost of the medication requested;
▪   Average daily dosage;

- Indications for use (including pharmacological effects, therapeutic uses of the medication and target symptoms);
- Advantages of the medication (including any relevant research findings if available);
- Adverse effects reported with the medication;
- Specific monitoring required; and
- The drugs on the current formulary that this medication could replace.

Deletions:
A detailed summary of the reason requesting the deletion.

What happens with my request?
The ADHS/DBHS Medical Director will bring the request to the ADHS/DBHS Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee for review. The ADHS/DBHS Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee approves or disapproves requests for changes to the ADHS/DBHS medication list.

Changes to the T/RBHA Medication Formulary
[T/RBHA insert specific info here]

What happens with my request?
[T/RBHA insert specific info here]